

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-7, 30-38 and 40 previously presented for examination remain in the application. Claims 3, 30 and 40 have been amended. Claims 1 and 39 have canceled without prejudice. Claims 8-29 were previously cancelled as being drawn to a non-elected invention, but may be pursued in a divisional application.

Claims 1, 30 and 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being considered to be unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 3,803,354 to Bennett ("Bennett").

Claims 3-7, 31 and 40 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 32-38 are allowed.

Claims 1 and 39 have been canceled and claim 30 has been amended to depend from claim 3, which has been amended to include the limitations of the base claim. Therefore, rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) with respect to claims 1, 30 and 39 has been rendered moot.

As mentioned, claim 3 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of the base claim (claim 1). There are no intervening claims. Claims 4-7 and 30-31 depend from and further limit claim 3.

Claim 40 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of the base claim (claim 39) and there are no intervening claims.

Based on the foregoing, applicants respectfully submit that the applicable objections and rejections have been overcome, and claims 3-7, 30-38 and 40 are in condition for allowance. If the examiner disagrees or believes that further discussion will expedite prosecution of this case, the examiner is invited to telephone applicants' representative at the number indicated below.

If there are any charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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